Amusements and Meetings To-Night.

BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—2 and 8—"The Mascotte."
HAVERLY'S 14TH STREET THEATRE—2 and 8—"Sam'l of Posen."
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—"The Professor."

METROPOLITAN CONCERT HALL—Concert.

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FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

MONDAY, JULY 4, 1881.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The European Press is unanimous in its expressions of sympathy and regret at the attempt upon the President's life. ==== The French elections will be held in September. ==== It is expected that the new Italian loan will be signed Tuesday or Wednesday. ==== The British reserve squadron, under the command of the Duke of Edinburgh, has arrived off Cronstadt. ==== The Mexican Government has decided to impose additional duties upon all foreign merchandise from November next.

DOMESTIC.—The latest dispatches represent the President's condition as being less favorable than early yesterday evening, but not alarming. ==== Guiteau's insanity is questioned; Deputy Attorney-General Cook expressed the opinion yesterday that the assassin was the tool of a conspiracy; it was stated that at the time of the shooting confederates were posted in the neighborhood of the depot. ==== Vice-President Arthur arrived in Washington early yesterday morning and called at the Executive Mansion. ==== The celebration of Independence Day will be dispensed with in many places throughout the country. ==== The call for a conference of Republicans at Albany has been signed by fifty-nine members. ==== A fire at Biddeford destroyed property of the value of $15,000.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The suspense and anxiety in the city about the condition of the President, yesterday, were great; notwithstanding the heat, few persons went to the pleasure resorts; the attack on President Garfield was the subject of comment in the pulpits. ==== Several serious affrays occurred. ==== Preparations for a quiet Fourth of July were made.

THE WEATHER.—TRIBUNE local observations indicate clear or fair and warmer weather, followed by partly cloudy weather and chances of light rain late in the day. Thermometer yesterday: Highest, 87°; lowest, 64°; average, 74½°.

The comments on Guiteau's crime, which begin to pour in from foreign countries, express a deep sense of sympathy mingled with horror and surprise. It is one of the evil consequences of the crime that its circumstances should be widely misunderstood abroad, some of the press comments bordering on the ludicrous.

The purchase of an extensive cotton manufactory at Queretaro, by an American company, is another sign of the industrial and commercial progress which our countrymen are making in Mexico. The announcement that the Mexican import duties are to be increased from November next was inevitable in view of the charges which the railroad subsidies have imposed on the national treasury.

Guiteau has already established the reputation of being, for a person of alleged unsound mind, one of the most methodical men alive. The feeling grows that a man sane enough to plan one of the most deliberately devised attempts at murder on record is sane enough to be hanged if his victim should die. It is a significant fact that no one who has been in contact with Guiteau at Washington, either before the crime or since, regards him as irresponsible.

The country never celebrated a sadder Fourth of July than this, with the President's life trembling in doubt. It is already announced from Boston and a number of other cities that, if the worst should come to-day, the official celebration of the Fourth will be abandoned. This would certainly be the only appropriate action to be taken anywhere, and would be instinctively adopted, no doubt, in every case. It is a question whether it might not be better to abandon the celebration in all cases in view of the uncertainty of the President's condition, or to turn the public meetings into solemn gatherings of citizens to consider the lessons of the event. There can be no better time for a people to take counsel together than when they are sitting in the shadow of a National affliction. But whatever the observance of the day, should President Garfield not recover, the Fourth of July will for years to come be regarded as a day of mourning rather than as one of rejoicing.

The pulpit addresses of yesterday in this city reflected the intense feeling of the community with respect to the attempt upon the President's life. Comparatively few of the churches were open, the summer vacations having set in, but those in which services were held were in most cases crowded at a season of the year when literally empty pews are the rule. It was a memorable day in Plymouth Church. The usual order of service was abandoned for one of prayers and hymns, with addresses by Mr. Beecher, which brought tears to the faces of hundreds. In this city the Rev. Dr. Bellows, the Rev. Dr. Dix and the Rev. Dr. Potter all made notable references to the dreadful event. The Rev. Dr. Newman discussed its relations to the political tendencies of the time, and declared that license of speech and corruption had reached an alarming point. The Rev. Dr. MacArthur's address derives a curious personal interest from the fact that he is the pastor of the congregation from which the President's assassin was expelled some years ago, and that he has some recollection of the father of Vice-President Arthur, who was an honored clergyman of the Baptist denomination. The Vice-President may find in the words of Dr. MacArthur a proof, if he needs it, that the feeling with regard to his recent course is not confined to politicians and newspapers, but exists in strength among sober thinking people outside of politics. Whatever the future may bring, this is a thing it would be wise and patriotic to remember.

The latest advices from the bedside of the President do not show his condition to be so favorable as it was throughout the day and early in the evening. Both the pulse and the temperature have risen considerably, to fall again, but not to their former level. The bulletin issued at 12.30 a. m. reports little change, but notes the appearance of some tympanites, and a temperature and pulse higher than during the day. It is not to be disguised that the late reports are less reassuring, and seem to give less satisfactory grounds for the confidence in his recovery which many felt during the day. The physicians in attendance declare that all depends upon his strength and powers of endurance. These, like his courage and Christian hope, are great, and the prayers of the people are with him.

A NATION IN SUSPENSE.

While the stricken President still struggles between life and death a great and unwonted anxiety fills the public mind. It arises from two sentiments which the shock of this terrible calamity has clearly revealed. One is the affection and confidence in which General Garfield is held by the people, and the other is the dread of what may come after him if the "Stalwart" assassin's bullet proves to have done its work effectively.

No one knew until Saturday how strong a hold our President had gained upon the hearts of the people of this country. His honest, open, noble nature, his genial friendliness, his quick sympathy with all classes and conditions of men, had as much endeared him to our affections as his genius and great services had commended him to our admiration. He was the people's President, one of them in his origin, in his early struggles, in his honorable success, in the sturdy national strain of his character and mind. While he had attained by his great talents and splendid industry a place beyond the reach of competition years ago, and had afterward been raised to the highest station upon earth attainable through the free choice of a people, he never lost the popular qualities which rendered him less an object of envy than of hearty personal regard, not only among the thousands who knew him, but also among the millions to whom he was merely a name and a type of greatness due to merit and to labor. The controversy forced upon him at the very outset of his Administration, the good-natured firmness, utterly devoid of arrogance and bluster, with which he pursued the course he thought required by his self-respect and the best interests of the country, resulted in a great increase of his popularity among a people who like firmness and courage, most especially when accompanied with sense and modesty and free from arrogance and selfishness. Just at the moment when his fellow-citizens had begun to appreciate him and love him most, the bullet of the assassin laid him low, and the tenderest compassion was added to their former regard. By the every-day miracles of the telegraph and the printing-press working together the whole mass of the people have been admitted to his bedside, and have scanned his every action and expression since the blow was struck. In these long hours of pain and mortal peril they learned anew how brave and true and tender a soul their great ruler possessed. His calm resignation to the will of heaven; his absence of all feeling of resentment against his assassin and his enemies; the knightly devotion with which his first care was given to breaking the news and sending his love to his faithful wife; his cheerful serenity, lightened even to jocularity, with his friends at his bedside; his words of comfort to his weeping children; the indomitable will and courage with which, when his physician informed him that he had one chance in a hundred of living, he replied, "Then we will go in on that chance,"—all these things have touched the hearts of millions, and turned their admiration and regard to warm and anxious affection. Yesterday, from thousands of churches, prayers went up to Heaven for the safety of a life that had suddenly grown more precious than ever, and last night there were few family altars in the land that did not send up the same petition with passion and tears.

The pain of his loss, if it be the will of Heaven that the Nation shall lose him, seems therefore a sorrow too great to be borne, at this hour, when the people seem first to have come to a full and adequate knowledge of him. But mingled with this sentiment of sorrow is another which it is our duty as chroniclers to record. It is a feeling everywhere expressed on Saturday, and yesterday as well, that what is known of the Vice-President is not of a nature to inspire that full measure of confidence which would afford the only consolation possible in a disaster like the present. General Arthur is a gentleman of many accomplishments and many amiable and engaging qualities. He is represented to us by those who know him well as one of the most upright of citizens, one of the most loyal and devoted of friends. It is precisely here that the public mind finds its cause of doubt and apprehension. It is feared that he is more devoted to his friends than to the public welfare; that he can see nothing but good in them, and nothing but evil in their opponents. If this be true, and if the grief and misfortune is in store for us of losing the noble, enlightened, placable and generous ruler whom we chose in joy and hope last year, then the bitterness of the present sorrow and the weight of the present anxiety will be as nothing to what we shall have to endure in the four troubled years which are to come.

THE DUTY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature of this State meets to-day, in the shadow of a great National affliction. If they are not absolutely unteachable, the solemnity of the passing hour should have its effect upon them. They have too long evaded, in a spirit of reckless faction, the plain duty devolving upon them. If there is any spark of public virtue left in the men who have for two months been wasting their votes in Albany, it would seem that an occasion like the present should call it forth. They cannot better honor the day than by sacrificing some petty spite or self-interest to the public good. They cannot show any deeper respect to the stricken ruler, smitten by the devilish hand of faction, than by discharging their constitutional task, and freeing this State from the contemplation of a demoralizing wrangle which has lasted far too long.

A certain number of the members of the Legislature have thus far shown themselves to be insensible to the strongest currents of public opinion in the State. They have voted in defiance and contempt of their constituents. It remains to be seen whether they can hold themselves aloof with equal success from that immense emotion of mingled sorrow and dread which has possessed this State for two days. We speak in the interest of no candidate. We shall name no names of those prominently before the joint convention, whose election would be received with satisfaction by the people. But if, for any reason, real or fancied, they cannot vote for any of these, the State has other names of equal value and honor. There are Evarts and Morgan and White and Davis and a score of others equally worthy, whose election would frighten no interest and do nothing but credit to the State. There is, in short, only one man of prominence in the former councils of the party whom the Legislators are not free, in the interest of the Republican party and the country, to choose—and that is our late Senator, to whose unjustifiable act we owe the present struggle at Albany. There have been words said during the last forty-eight hours among the baser sort of his adherents in this city which we forbear to repeat or comment upon. We take it for granted that he is now, as he was last week, the one impossible candidate in all circumstances. Nothing has changed in *his* favor. The pistol of Guiteau has not slain all honor and self-respect in Albany.

What is there, then, to wait for? There has been already too much waiting, too much managing, too much scandal, too much dodging and skulking. Every Republican should be in his place to-day voting. The gloom of the hour is but an additional reason for action. Abram Davenport gained immortality in the verse of Whittier by rising in his place in the Colonial Legislature on the Dark Day and saying, "If it be indeed the Day of the Lord, I wish that He shall find me doing my duty. Let candles be brought in." In this day of real sorrow and well-founded fear, let us have what consolation we may find in one act of duty fearlessly performed by the Legislature of New-York.

A MEMORABLE SABBATH.

Yesterday was an eventful Sabbath in the history of the American people. We have known many such days of greater popular anxiety. There were dark Sundays in the civil war when the people forsook the churches for the bulletin-boards and telegraph offices, and waited anxiously for news from the front. Thousands of lives were at stake then where one hangs in the balance now; the issue might mean personal mourning in almost any home, and there was a tension and popular agony which it would be unnatural to expect at this time. The first Sunday when Lincoln lay in his coffin was one never to be forgotten. Mr. Lincoln was shot on Good Friday night; in seven hours he was dead, and to the vast majority of the population the news of the foul attack and of its fatal result came together. The following day was Sunday, and the sorrow of the people found a natural outlet in the services of the churches, which were densely crowded, and where the subject that filled all minds was the only subject discussed. The passionate grief of that time can only be understood by those who lived through it, and know how the triumphant loyalty of the Northern people had centred about Lincoln, making him their idol, and causing the blow struck at him to be felt in every patriotic heart. It would be illogical in the highest degree to expect an equal outburst of emotion now in a time of profound peace and quiet.

But yesterday was the first Sabbath in the history of our people on which a President lay battling for his life against the still, small bullet of an assassin, amid the prayers of the Nation, and as such it must always remain a strange and eventful day in American annals. If the aspect of this city was an index to that of the other great cities, there were few signs of general excitement. Crowds of men before the bulletin-boards, and eager groups in the hotel lobbies, and large congregations in the churches, were about all the outward manifestations of popular agitation. The summer exodus has begun, and the great avenues of the city were comparatively empty, as they always are on a Sunday at this season of the year. Many of the churches were closed, and this fact heightened the deserted appearance of the city. But in every church and in thousands and thousands of homes, and on the lips of men who perhaps would hardly have confessed it to themselves, the voice of prayer was raised for the assassin's victim. Our news columns bear witness to the deep feeling of all classes of the population, and the hearty, human sympathy with which they watched all day for news of the fight between death and the brave, sturdy President.

If it was a memorable Sunday here and in the other great cities, how much more in the rural communities, the small towns and villages, the farming districts and little railroad hamlets, where there is none of the indifference of large cities, where every man knows his neighbor and talks with him, where the American spirit is strong, where there are few of those broad streaks of foreign population which make large areas in our great cities wholly un-American, and so check currents of popular feeling. The person who saw one such scene yesterday saw them all—the anxious groups in the country churchyard, the fervent prayer in the church and the heartfelt response, the tearful sympathy of good women and the honest anger of good men, the crowd gathered at the little railroad station listening to the clicking of the wire that was flashing its news to every nook and corner of our vast territory. This scene was repeated in the peaceful New-England villages, the little clearings in the woods of the Far West, the mining camps and the cross-road hamlets; and intensified in all those regions of the West where General Garfield's face and personality were familiarly known in a way in which they have not been known in the East. It is an impressive thought—that of this great people, stretching from one ocean to the other, standing uncovered while they listened, reverently and hopefully, in the silence of the Sabbath, for tidings from that room of suffering in Washington. If the wounded man should recover, what a memory for his future years will the thought of this Sabbath be! No consecration could be more complete and touching. In any event, what a memory for those to whom he is dear! And if the worst should come to pass, and the shadows out of which his brave spirit has at times seemed to be struggling should close over him at last, it might well be said that he could ask no better fate than to die amid the prayers and tears of the whole American people.

SURGICAL ASPECT OF THE PRESIDENT'S CASE.

The intense anxiety of the public concerning the condition of the President is, if possible, increased by the varying statements placed on the bulletin boards. The official bulletins of the attending surgeons have been during the last twenty-four hours reassuring, but many other accounts are published which throw doubt upon the former. It is fair to presume that the statements signed by the attendants give the real facts so far as they think proper to express any opinion, and that the other telegrams are the result of private inquiries of anxious friends, whose fears distort the remarks of the surgeon, who may himself have been guided in his unguarded utterances by his temperament, sanguine or gloomy, as the case may be. Opinions, too, would naturally differ according as they were based upon the present appearances of the case or upon the general experience in similar cases.

The injury of the President, as described by Dr. Bliss, is a gunshot wound which, penetrating the abdominal cavity from behind, traverses in part the right lobe of the liver, the ball being lodged in the latter. Gunshot wounds of the abdomen are among the most serious injuries known to surgery, and when, as in the case of the President, an important organ is involved the danger is increased. That the result is not uniformly fatal is shown by the surgical record of every great hospital and of every great war since military surgery became an established branch of medical science. But the very prominence given to the cases of recovery is evidence of their exceptional nature. A very great proportion of cases of gunshot injury of the liver die speedily from shock or from internal hemorrhage. The shock which seemed to threaten the immediate close of the case on Saturday has happily been safely reacted from, and Dr. Bliss reports explicitly that there has been but little internal hemorrhage. The next cause for anxiety is the occurrence of inflammation of the organs and tissues traversed or injured by the ball. The most dreaded complication of this sort is the appearance of general peritonitis. The great fatality of this disease is well known; but it should be borne in mind that it would be obviously improper to make the same prognostications for a case under the favorable conditions and with the skilful treatment which the President enjoys as for a soldier subjected to the hardships of the battlefield.

Taking the President's case by itself, so far as the facts can be gathered from the telegrams, there are some reasons for hoping that it may prove to be one of the instances of fortunate recovery. They are that, first, thus far, thirty-six hours after the injury, there is no appearance of inflammatory mischief; there is no great rise in temperature, no hurry of respiration, and the pulse-rate is within safe limits. Again, the President is reported as sleeping naturally and sufficiently. Still further, and of great importance, his stomach has resumed its functions; he takes food willingly and retains it easily. Last, and by no means least, the mental quiet and courage of the patient are greatly in his favor. In all surgery they count for much; in such an injury as the President's they are at once an evidence of the relatively small damage done his nervous tone, and a good omen for the subsequent progress of the case.

Many natural inquiries are made and doubts expressed as to the future health of the President. There seems to be no especial reason, however, for doubting that if he escapes the dangers immediately threatening his life he will be able to be, as heretofore, a President indeed.

THE ASSASSIN'S PLANS.

If Guiteau is crazy, his insanity is apparently only of that kind which usually impels bad men to commit desperate and premeditated crimes. He moved about Washington without anybody thinking him a fit subject for a lunatic asylum. To all appearances he was only a type of a numerous class of shiftless adventurers who make their way to the National Capital at the beginning of every new Administration and urge ridiculous claims for office as a reward for trifling or purely imaginary services to the successful party. Their claims are, of course, never recognized, and they hang about the city month after month, impecunious, desperate and revengeful. Guiteau seemed to those who knew him to be a man of this well-known class, no more insane or dangerous than his fellows. The only peculiarity that distinguished him from the mob of disappointed and worthless place-hunters seems to have been the fact that his malice was not altogether personal. His paramount idea, if we may judge by his exclamation when arrested, was to serve a political faction hostile to the President. In his morbid conceit he doubtless thought he would make himself the hero of that faction, and he seems to have even imagined that it would protect him from the consequences of his crime.

The theory of ordinary insanity does not fit with the behavior of the assassin. He knew just what he wanted to do, and set about doing it with a coolness that shows a normal action of the reasoning faculties. He carefully informed himself of the day and hour of the President's intended departure, purchased a revolver, and coolly stationed himself at a place in the depot where his victim must necessarily pass close to him. He even made a plan for his own escape—a lame one, it is true, but still not the plan of a disordered brain. He designed to jump into a carriage which he had previously engaged, and drive as fast as possible to the Congressional Cemetery, in the extreme eastern suburbs of the city. If he had reached that lonely spot his next move would no doubt have been to cross the Eastern Branch to the sparsely settled country beyond—the very region which Booth traversed after the murder of Lincoln. The man would have been captured in any case, but his scheme of escape was as good as he could have made. Even his letter to General Sherman in which he announced his crime as already committed showed remarkable forethought and care for his own safety. He anticipated the possibility of his capture and asked the General to send troops to the jail to prevent him from being lynched in the first access of popular fury. Under the circumstances, there is little room to doubt that he is morally responsible for his criminal act.

Had he confederates? Was he the tool of a conspiracy? These are questions which the public cannot help asking, but to which no answer can be given yet. The preliminary investigation of the affair must be conducted with the greatest secrecy lest the ends of justice should be thwarted by an untimely exposure of threads of circumstantial evidence leading to other persons, if any such threads have been found. We must be content with the knowledge that the work of investigation is in skilful and judicious hands. Attorney-General MacVeagh will probe the dastardly crime to the bottom. If Guiteau is the tool and victim of revengeful rascals, whose schemes for plundering the Government have been broken up, and over whose heads the penalties of the law are about to fall, the fact cannot remain concealed. Thus far, there is nothing of public knowledge to warrant the suspicion that the assassin had abettors or confidants, and we may reasonably hope that when the whole truth is known it will show that the responsibility for the infamous and cruel deed rests with him alone.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

It will hardly repress the fervor with which patriotic citizens recite the Declaration of Independence to their children this morning, and it may enliven their interest in the solemnities of the season, if they remind themselves that "the day we celebrate" is the wrong day after all. It may well be held that our independence as a Nation dates from the 5th of May, 1776, when the Continental Congress voted to recommend all the Colonies to adopt new forms of government, as this was the first formal act of the general Legislature looking toward a complete separation—an act which was characterized by John Adams as "Independence itself." It was not until the 7th of June, however, that Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, offered the startling resolution that "These United Colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent States." This was a declaration at once of freedom and National unity, and the action upon it tested the temper both of Congress and the people, and forced the Colonies, through their representatives, to take a stand at once before the world on this crucial question. We can well understand why Congress was unprepared for immediate action on such a capital issue. When patriots like Governor Livingston, Henry Laurens, Robert Morris, Rutledge, John Dickinson, and even Franklin, were apprehensive lest the step should be premature, it is not surprising that a bare majority of seven out of the thirteen colonies could be counted in its favor, and that final action should have been postponed until the 1st of July. On that day the great debate was carried on in secret session for nine consecutive hours, according to Jefferson, "without refreshment and without pause," and on the 2d of July all the colonies except New-York, whose delegates with a single exception favored the resolution, voted in the affirmative, and the colonies by the solemn act of their representatives became an independent Nation. It was the 2d of July to which John Adams referred in that famous prophecy so often quoted to justify unlimited firecrackers, and which he designated as the great National festival to be celebrated with pomp and gunpowder in all future time "from one end of the Continent to the other."

What happened on the 4th of July was simply the report of the committee appointed to draft a "Declaration" as a supplement to the resolution of Independence. The resolution was the vital and essential point. The Declaration, even according to Jefferson, was only "to place before mankind the common sense of the subject." It was virtually an appeal to the tribunal of the world to justify the great transaction of the 2d, but the sonorous periods of the paper have made it immortal, and so thoroughly engrossed popular attention and captivated popular imagination that the proclamation has effaced the memory of the specific act which it publishes. But although the Declaration was reported on the 4th, it was not signed on that day, as the journal of Congress would seem to show, nor is it known who signed the original document, for this has been lost or was perhaps purposely destroyed. The revered parchment still in existence was not engrossed until nearly a month later, and on the 2d of August the members present subscribed their names. Several of these who are immortalized among the "signers" were not in Congress on the 4th of July. Matthew Thornton did not sign the Declaration until November, and it was not until the following January that Thomas McKean, of Delaware, added his name. It was plainly used as a sort of test oath to certify the allegiance of new Representatives, and the business of signing might have been prolonged indefinitely if certified copies of the paper with its signatures had not been sent to the various State Capitals and thus fixed it as a complete document. That the ceremony was not considered a matter of paramount importance may be inferred from the fact that the name of Robert R. Livingston, one of the Committee of Five to draft the paper, does not appear, and it should be added that one at least of the signers was opposed to the resolution of Independence.

Nevertheless the 4th and not the 2nd was soon celebrated as the National birthday. Washington himself and the Continental Army setting the fashion while the war went on. It is a pleasing proof of the pious care with which we tread in the footsteps of our patriotic sires to know that the earliest glorifications assumed the very form which prevails to-day. It is set down in the diary of Marshall, that trustworthy Philadelphia Quaker, as long ago as 1780, that there was marching of soldiers and burning of powder and fireworks, and that "in the State House Congress and the President celebrated all day till evening, when numbers of them were so drunk as to reel home."

PROVIDENCE AND ENGLISH IDEAS.

The strictures upon the Monetary Conference, wherein the leading London journal has given vent to its pent-up vexation, may not be wholly logical. For one thing, it is hard to understand why Sir Louis Mallet, the representative of British India, should be reproved for encouraging the "heresy" that Government has anything to do with the precious metals beyond guaranteeing their weight and fineness, if it seemed reasonable, before the Conference actually met, that Great Britain on behalf of India should "undertake to cooperate in any proper measure for increasing the employment of silver and so raising its price." There can be no doubt, however, that those strictures are in accord with the mass of public sentiment in England. A people who have proclaimed for a whole generation the saving grace of Free Trade without succeeding in converting any considerable portion of the world to their economic gospel, naturally resent any imputations upon a monetary system which they have also accepted as infallible not only for themselves but for all the nations of the earth. The leading journal speaks with complacency of "the English idea" as "the orthodox economic idea," and dismisses with an affectation of contempt the basis of the Conference as "rank heresy repeated ad nauseam" by "second and third-rate economists, or by people who are not economists at all." The Government is advised to read its delegates a lecture upon "a currency scheme of which the business world and our most distinguished economists are proud," so that they may cease to misrepresent their country at Paris. These utterances have the impress of national superiority and will be received with hearty approval by the English public.

The St. James's Gazette has an article in a different vein. It affirms that the acts of Parliament which established Free Trade destroyed a large number of industries in existence thirty-five years ago, and "that the home market now receives from abroad all the articles of use and luxury which it formerly took from the protected domestic manufactures." It describes England as "the great manufacturer of shoddy for the entire world," for the industries which survive are relatively few in number and produce a prodigious quantity of cheap goods. It then points out a fact which the orthodox Free Traders will not face. "The entire civilized world, which was intended to buy these goods, enters into a league to exclude them." Foreign markets are closed against a nation which has deliberately sacrificed one minor industry after another and gone into a vast business of a special kind; and when Free Traders are asked what is to be done, they reply, "Do nothing; Providence will interfere somehow," like the Red Indian who refuses "to go a-hunting when his stock of venison is getting smaller and smaller." The conclusion which is reached is that it is arrant folly for Englishmen to expect that foreign Protectionists will be brought to see the errors of their ways, and that retaliation is not inconsistent in principle with Free Trade.

It is not our purpose to enforce the moral of the wholesome truths which are blurted out in this remarkable article. We only wish to make a practical application of the main premise on which the argument is based, namely, that a science formed by generalization, like political economy, must be constantly corrected, or it will make no progress. A nation against whom the tariffs of the civilized world are massed is in a position to revise its economic theories by the light of the new facts. It is not in a position to reaffirm the infallibility of its own judgment. In like manner, when it is asked to unite with other nations in a scheme for revising the monetary systems of the business world, it should give all the new facts their full weight and not condemn in advance any departure from English ideas as a plunge from the heights of orthodoxy into fathomless heresy. If the new facts only tend to strengthen the old ideas, well and good. If the old ideas are upset by the new facts, so much the worse for "economic orthodoxy." But the assumption of national infallibility goes for nothing. In an unstable world like our own little planet, it is presumptuous to expect that "Providence will interfere somehow" to convince mankind that in political economy whatever is English is right, and whatever is not English is wrong.

A letter to *The American Register* from Switzerland, places in the clearest light the admirable behavior of the Government of that Republic in the face of the recent senseless panic in Europe in regard to American provisions. The timely action of the Federal Council and the prompt and intelligent intervention of Captain Frank H. Mason, our Consul at Basle, saved the Swiss people and our own exporters from serious loss and damage. The letter referred to says: "The persistency with which the French Government has acted in the matter is most reprehensible, and in marked contrast with its hasty and now transparent action in condemning American salted meats as unfit for food has been the deliberate and intelligent course of the Swiss Republic in respect to the same subject. When the prohibitory decree was announced in France, instead of losing its head the Swiss Government set to work to ascertain the facts. The Legislature directed the Federal Sanitary Commission to make a rigid investigation and report what seemed necessary to be done. The Sanitary Board made careful investigations, heard both sides, and permitted the American Consul at Basle to submit a statement and statistics in defence of the much abused meats from the United States. After mature research the Sanitary Commission, whose members are experienced scientific men, decided, and upon their report the Swiss Minister of the Interior has officially declared, that no ground appears for prohibiting the import of American meats into Switzerland, or requiring any special inspection of such meats as a precaution against trichinæ. No higher authority on this subject exists in Europe than the Federal Sanitary Commission at Berne, and its action is typical of the intelligence and fairness with which the Republic of the Alps is governed."

We wonder how many of the orators who will quote from the Declaration of Independence to-day will do it correctly? If there could be a test made, the number, we fear, would be found to be lamentably small. Here, for instance, is so well informed a citizen as Henry Ward Beecher in a recent sermon making the memorial document say that "all men are created free and equal." Unless every copy of the Declaration that has come under our notice has been grossly misrepresented, it says nothing of the kind. Men are not created "free," as Mr. Beecher and everyone else knows, but are subject to the restraint of their parents or guardians for more than half the average length of life. What Jefferson did write was that "all men are created equal." He did not assert that they were created free. It was the custom of that Nestor of Journalism, Mr. Thurlow Weed, when he had charge of *The Albany Journal*, to print annually the Declaration of Independence about the time of the National holiday. We are not sure, considering the ignorance existing as to the proper reading of the document, that it would not be a good practice to revive.

Mr. Thomas C. Acton, Chief of the Assay Office, appears from an interview printed yesterday to be a person of very noble sentiments. It is stated he was found reading a telegram announcing the President sinking. "This is an hour," he said, "when political intrigue and ambition for office should cease." And he then goes on to state in detail how it is to be made to cease. "General Arthur will go in. The Cabinet will undoubtedly be changed, and Conkling may be placed at the head of the State Department and General Grant be made Secretary of War. Blaine will have to go out; that is certain. His race at the White House is run." If this is the prospect before us, it must be confessed to be full of a certain sort of promise.

PERSONAL.

Mr. William Black is said to have received from his English publishers $2,500 for his latest story, "That Beautiful Wretch."

Madame Adelina Patti will, it is said, shortly sail for this country, where she has determined to make $200,000 by her concert tour.

M. Ferdinand de Lesseps has been elected president of the French Geographical Society, in the place of the late M. La Ronciere-le-Noury.

In honor of the late Colonel Thomas A. Scott the trustees of Washington and Lee University have resolved that the professorship of applied mathematics shall be known as the Thomas A. Scott Professorship of Applied Mathematics.

Count Bawerouski has left his fortune of 2,000,000 guldens to the Austrian province of Galicia for scientific and philanthropic purposes. The capital is first to accumulate to ten millions: half of it is then to be expended and the rest allowed to accumulate to twenty millions.

Mr. Royal Phelps, of this city, who is the father-in-law of the Hon. John Lee Carroll, has purchased